



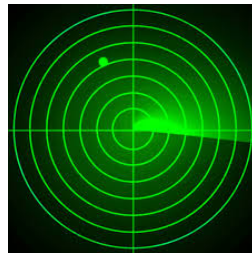
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Top Stories In This Briefing



MCAC Asked.

Results are In.
Payment Collection Pain
Points are...



Issues on the Radar Update

Public Works Claim
Resolution Bill Signed;
Cal/OSHA Revises
Walkaround Rule



MCAC 1st Clay Shoot Comes to Northern California

October 9, 2026



MCAC Asked. The Results are In. Payment Collection Pain Points are...

In the [2Q 2026 MCAC Newsletter](#), we were feeling your pain! We shared the story of a frustrated MCAC member struggling to collect more than \$440,000 in

approved change orders—some aged more than 400 days. Despite years of California payment reform legislation, the experience raised an important question: Are California's payment reforms working as intended? To find out whether this was an isolated case or a broader industry trend, we asked MCAC members to complete a brief two-question survey. Here's what you told us.

We asked: What is your single biggest problem with payment collection?

- **Progress Payments** - 50%
- **Change Orders** - 30%

- **Retention** - 20%

We asked: What is your average delinquency for change orders?

- **up to 90 days** - 43%
- **91-180 days** - 29%
- **more than 181 days** - 29%

Since collecting these results, two important developments have occurred.

First, Governor Newsom signed SB 33 on July 16, permanently establishing a standardized public works dispute resolution process and payment workflow. (Read more in the *Issues on the Radar* article below.)

Second, two additional MCAC members contacted us seeking guidance on how recent legislation—including [SB 33](#), [SB 440](#), and [SB 61](#)—works alongside existing payment laws and how these tools can be used to improve payment collection.

The survey results confirm what many contractors already know: payment delays remain a significant challenge. While California has continued to strengthen payment protections, understanding how—and when—to use these laws can be just as important as the laws themselves. In response, MCAC is developing practical guidance and member resources to help contractors navigate payment collection issues more effectively. **Stay tuned.**



Now Hiring: Director of Business Development & Preconstruction

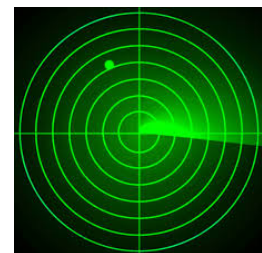
[Director of Business Development & Preconstruction](#) for [David Hall Masonry](#) is responsible for managing the estimating department, evaluating project opportunities, assigning bid opportunities, developing customer relationships, improving bid conversion rates, driving profitable revenue growth, and creating alignment between preconstruction and operations.

Full time, in-person position based in Ripon, California.

To apply, visit listing on [LinkedIn.com](#) or email resume to: Viridiana Verduzco - HR/Payroll & Accounts Payable vverduzco@dhmasonry.com.

Issues on the Radar Update

**Public Works Claim Resolution Bill Signed;
Cal/OSHA Revises Walkaround Rule**



SB 33 Signed: Public Works Claim Resolution Process Made Permanent

Governor Newsom has signed SB 33, making permanent California's public works claim resolution process. The law requires public agencies to review contractor claims within prescribed timeframes, pay undisputed amounts when appropriate, and work toward resolving disputes before they escalate into costly litigation.

While the legislation is intended to encourage earlier dispute resolution and reduce litigation costs, contractors should be aware of several practical limitations in the process:

- No work stoppage rights on public projects for nonpayment.
- No statutory deadline for mediation, potentially delaying resolution.
- Lack of direct contractual privity for many subcontractors.
- General contractor gatekeeping, as subcontractor claims generally must flow through the prime contractor.
- No attorney's fee recovery, even when a claim is successful.
- Limited financial incentive for prompt payment, as the statutory interest rate remains 7% annually, compared to the 2% per month penalty available on many private works projects.

MCAC will continue to monitor implementation of the new law and advocate for reforms that improve payment protections for California masonry contractors.

Cal/OSHA Walkaround Rule Update:

Just before the July 4 holiday, Cal/OSHA released minor revisions to its proposed Walkaround Rule, but several significant concerns remain unresolved.

Among the most notable issues are how third-party employee representatives will be authorized to accompany inspectors and how employers' confidential information, trade secrets, and facility security will be protected during workplace inspections.

Additional concerns include:

- No pre-entry vetting process for third-party representatives.
- Inspectors would still be expected to make real-time access decisions regarding individuals who have not been previously vetted.
- The proposal continues to raise concerns for employers operating facilities with hazardous chemicals, high-voltage electrical systems, sensitive manufacturing processes, or critical infrastructure.

With the rule expected to move through the regulatory process and related federal litigation still pending, California employers should remain informed and prepared for potential changes to Cal/OSHA inspection procedures.





IRS Mileage Rate Increases Retroactive to July 1, 2026

In a rare midyear adjustment, the IRS increased the standard business mileage rate from 72.5 cents per mile to **76 cents per mile retroactive to July 1, 2026.**

The [July 13, 2026 announcement](#) cited higher gas prices as the reason for the increase.

2026 mileage rates (July 1 – Dec. 31)

The standard mileage rates for the remainder of 2026 are:

- Business: 76 cents/mile
- Charities: 14 cents/mile
- Medical: 23.5 cents/mile
- Moving (military only): 23.5 cents/mile

! Date Correction for Masonry Apprentice Skills Challenge @ BAC 4 - La Verne, CA

Please note the **revised date** for the Masonry Apprentice Skills Challenge is **October 10**, not October 2 as previously reported.

For more information, contact event hosts, the [Masonry Industry Training Association \(MITA\)](#) or the [Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 4 \(BAC 4\)](#).



Region 5 - West
Town Hall

[REGISTER](#)

AUGUST 17, 2026

Concrete Masonry Checkoff
Region 5 - West
Town Hall

9:00am Pacific

- Update on national program progress
- Key priorities
- Highlight program milestones



WORDS TO LIVE BY

*"We must reinforce argument with **results**."* – Booker T. Washington

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Mason Contractors Association of CA | 2485 Natomas Park Drive Suite 540 | Sacramento, CA 95833 US

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